



## **Secretary Richardson Announces Intention to Transfer Grand Junction Office Site to Economic Development Organization**

***Action Will Save the Department Nearly \$1 Million in Landlord Costs and Promote Local Economic Development***

Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson today announced that the department will transfer 46 acres of land and office buildings from the Grand Junction Office Site to a community-based, non-profit economic development corporation. After the transfer is completed, the Riverview Technology Corporation will use the land and office space for economic development purposes.

The site was identified to be transferred out of federal ownership as part of the department's goal to reduce overhead across the Energy Department complex. The transfer will be completed by February 2001.

"This is a win-win situation for the Energy Department and Mesa County," said Secretary Richardson. "The department will save nearly \$1 million annually in landlord costs, and the Riverview Technology Corporation will have the land and office space it needs to further local economic development in Mesa County."

The Grand Junction Office -- located in Mesa County, Colorado -- is situated on approximately 54 acres of land. The Riverview Technology Corporation will acquire all of the land with the exception of 8 acres which will be purchased by the U.S. Army by the year 2001.

In January 1998, the city of Grand Junction and Mesa County formed an 11-member commission to work with the department to develop plans for the future use of the site and the retention of the capabilities of the workforce once the land was transferred. As part of those plans, the River Technology Corporation agreed to lease back office space to the department's Grand Junction Office so that it could continue its functions uninterrupted.

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Release No. R-00-298

Release Date: December 04, 2000